

Benefits

Partnerships require a culture that reinforces community involvement. They recognize that a well-run community involvement initiative is a win/win program for schools, for businesses and for the community.

The Community Benefits

1. Improved economic environment and ability to draw new businesses and provide for economic growth
2. Lower dropout rates are associated with lower crime rates, less unemployment and fewer welfare recipients

Partners Benefit

1. Enhanced community image
2. Better prepared workforce
3. Improved employee morale and training
4. Aids in customer and employee recruitment

Note: In a 2004 survey of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, CEOs stated:

Motivating Factors for Corporate Citizenship

Companies agreed that good corporate citizenship is good business; 82% state that good corporate citizenship helps the bottom line, while 74% believe that the public has a right to expect companies to act as good citizens. Companies cited a range of internal and external motivating factors for adopting corporate citizenship. Internal motivators include:

- Traditions and values (75%)
- Reputation/image (59%)
- Business strategy (52%)
- Recruit/retain employees (38%)

External pressures cited were:

- Customers and consumers (53%)
- Expected in community (30%)
 - Laws and political pressures (24%)

Schools Benefit

1. Provides teachers with ideas for innovative approaches to learning
2. Provides added human and financial resources to schools
3. Reinforces school message that education is important for life
4. Improves employee morale knowing that the community values what they do

Students Benefit

1. Partnerships support student achievement
2. Relates school to "real life" by utilizing the business as a focus to delivering academics
3. Delivers a unified message that the community cares about students' academic success
4. Provides opportunities for greater career awareness
5. Increases student self-esteem
6. Enhances learning opportunities in non-traditional settings